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LETTER DATED 30 JUNE 1998 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw to your attention the statement issued on 26 June 1998 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on Burundi (copies of which are annexed hereto, in English and in French).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Stephen GOMERSALL
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Representative
of the United Kingdom to the
United Nations

98-19985 (E) 090798 090798

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued in Brussels on 26 June 1998 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on Burundi

The European Union welcomes the progress achieved at the first session of the Burundi peace talks conducted from 15 to 21 June 1998 in Arusha, Tanzania, and the commitment made by all parties represented at the talks to engage in serious negotiations with the aim of resolving the conflict in Burundi.

The Union welcomes the unanimous adoption by the parties of a declaration which includes a commitment to resolve the crisis by peaceful means and to put an end to all forms of violence. The Union calls on all armed parties to honour the commitment to suspend hostilities by 20 July 1998 at the latest.

The European Union strongly encourages all parties to return to the negotiating table on 20 July, ready to start a second round of negotiations in the spirit of goodwill and commitment to the dialogue indicated by their declaration. The Union will continue to support the peace process and the efforts of former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere to bring about a durable solution to the Burundi crisis.

The Central and Eastern European countries and Cyprus associated with the European Union and the European Free Trade Association countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.